



For immediate release

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Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation:

A focus on the future

(Renfrew, Ontario): The memory of those who lost their lives at École Polytechnique 20 years ago is kept alive through the numerous scholarships provided by the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation each year and the remarkable women who receive the prestigious awards .

The Foundation was formed in 1990 and celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2010. Foundation president Huntley O'Connor, P.Eng. says supporting and encouraging women to pursue a career in engineering has been, and remains the mandate and purpose of the Foundation.

“Over 100 women from across Canada have received one of our scholarships. Each recipient is selected based on their strong leadership skills. For many recipients, the scholarship went way beyond the financial support offered; the scholarship provided the confidence required to excel as role models and ambassadors for the engineering profession,” says O'Connor. “I am proud to be involved with this great organization and its important mandate.”

Despite the constant and ever-growing need for professional engineers in Canada, over half the population of potential future engineers aren't being engaged. Fewer than 10 per cent of professional engineers in Canada are women, making the support and encouragement the Foundation and its donors provides to women to become engineers integral to the future of Canadian business.

The generosity of the Foundation's donors and supporters provides 10 annual scholarships ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000 at the undergraduate, Master's and PhD levels of study to be awarded to women across Canada. The Foundation is supported in its efforts through its Corporate, Faculty and Scholarship Partners.

“It is an honour to have received the CEMF 20th Anniversary National Scholarship for Women in Engineering. This scholarship will allow me to pursue my studies and will motivate me to continue volunteering and getting involved in my community. Engineering is a profession where women can be leaders and where their contributions can lead to many great accomplishments,”

says Silvia, Fernandez Avila, 20th Anniversary National Scholarship for Women in Engineering winner, 2010.

Scholarship winners are honoured at the Annual CEMF Awards Luncheon held in conjunction with the Engineers Canada Annual General Meeting which will be held in Halifax for 2011, as well as being featured in a booklet, titled Faces of the Future, that is sent to universities, provincial associations, donors and stakeholders across the country.

Deadline for applications for the 2011 CEMF Scholarships is January 14, 2010.

For more information on the CEMF, its scholarships and programs, please visit www.cemf.ca or contact CEMF directly at 1-866-883-2363, info@cemf.ca.